



Removal Action Begins at Laurel Stone Church Road Site

This fact sheet provides information about:

- The Laurel Stone Church Road site
- Activities conducted to date
- Upcoming removal actions
- How to get more information

U.S. EPA Contacts

EPA is committed to keeping area residents informed about the removal activities at the Laurel Stone Church Road site. If you have any questions about the site, please contact the following EPA representatives:

EPA On-Scene Coordinator
Steve Renninger
(765) 698-1392

EPA Community Involvement
Coordinator
Mike Joyce
(312) 353-5546

Information Repository

An administrative record and other site information is located at:

Laurel Library
200 N. Clay
Laurel, IN 47024

Laurel Stone Church Road
Laurel, Indiana

October 2002

The Laurel Stone Church Road site, in Laurel Township, Franklin County, Indiana, was used as a waste disposal area in the 1960s and 1970s. During that time, drums containing waste solvents, paint and solid waste were disposed of at the site and buried. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is beginning activities to remove the drums and reduce any associated risks posed to area residents. This fact sheet discusses site background information, EPA's site investigations and the planned removal activities.

Site background

The Laurel Stone Church Road site is located at 19015 Stone Church Road about 2 miles east of the town of Laurel in Franklin County, Indiana. The site is a 10-acre portion of a 500-acre parcel and was used by the former Jackson Paint Company as a drum disposal area. The drum disposal area is a clearing between two branches of Little Duck Creek, which flows to the Whitewater River. A house and barn are located adjacent to the drum disposal areas. The remainder of the parcel consists of farm fields and wooded areas.

Three other sites in Laurel Township were used for waste disposal by the former Jackson Paint Company. These sites are the Laurel Dump #1 site (Old Rte 52), the Laurel Dump #2 site (Dam Road), and the Laurel Jackson Paint site (Laurel Road). Removal activities have already been completed at these sites, including the removal of 2,600 hazardous waste drums, contaminated soil and debris. Drums were also observed at the Laurel Stone Church Road site near Little Duck Creek during a site investigation in April 2002. As a result, the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) requested that EPA help determine whether removal activities were also needed at this site.



Photograph shows a view of partially buried and subsurface drums containing hazardous waste including elevated levels of benzene and lead.

Site investigations

In April 2002, EPA conducted an investigation at the Laurel Stone Church Road site. During the investigation, partially buried drums were identified at 20 locations in and around the 10-acre clearing and on the embankment above Little Duck Creek. Also, several drums containing wastes were seen in the creek. Some of the drums were deteriorated and, at some locations, the drum contents had spilled. EPA also conducted a geophysical survey to identify possible areas of buried drums. Based on visual observations and the geophysical survey, EPA excavated test trenches to further define the extent of the buried drums. In May 2002, 10 test trenches were dug, and about 50 drums were encountered. Also during the May 2002 investigation, 11 samples were collected from buried and partially buried drums and analyzed for hazardous waste characteristics.

Based on the analytical results, the drum contents are considered hazardous wastes. The hazardous substances identified in the wastes include lead and benzene.

For further information

If you would like additional information about the Laurel Stone Church Road site, please contact:

Mike Joyce

Community Involvement Coordinator
Office of Public Affairs (P-19J)
EPA
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604
(312) 353- 5546
or toll-free at 1-800-621-8431
joyce.mike@epa.gov

Steve Renninger

On-Scene Coordinator
Superfund Division
EPA (B-2)
26 West Martin Luther King Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45268
EPA Command Post
(765) 698-1392
renninger.steven@epa.gov

In addition, some of the wastes are capable of catching on fire.

Removal activities

On October 14, 2002, EPA initiated removal activities at the site. These activities will include characterizing, removing and properly disposing of hazardous wastes, contaminated soil and debris found at the site. The waste materials include partially buried and buried drums, smaller containers and other wastes not in containers. Drums and contaminated soil will be transported off-site for proper disposal. Soil samples will be collected both to help define the extent of contamination and to determine whether cleanup goals have been met. Excavated areas will be backfilled with clean material and then covered with topsoil and seeded to prevent erosion. EPA will conduct perimeter air monitoring during the removal action to protect adjacent residential areas during excavation work. EPA expects the removal activity to take several months to complete.

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